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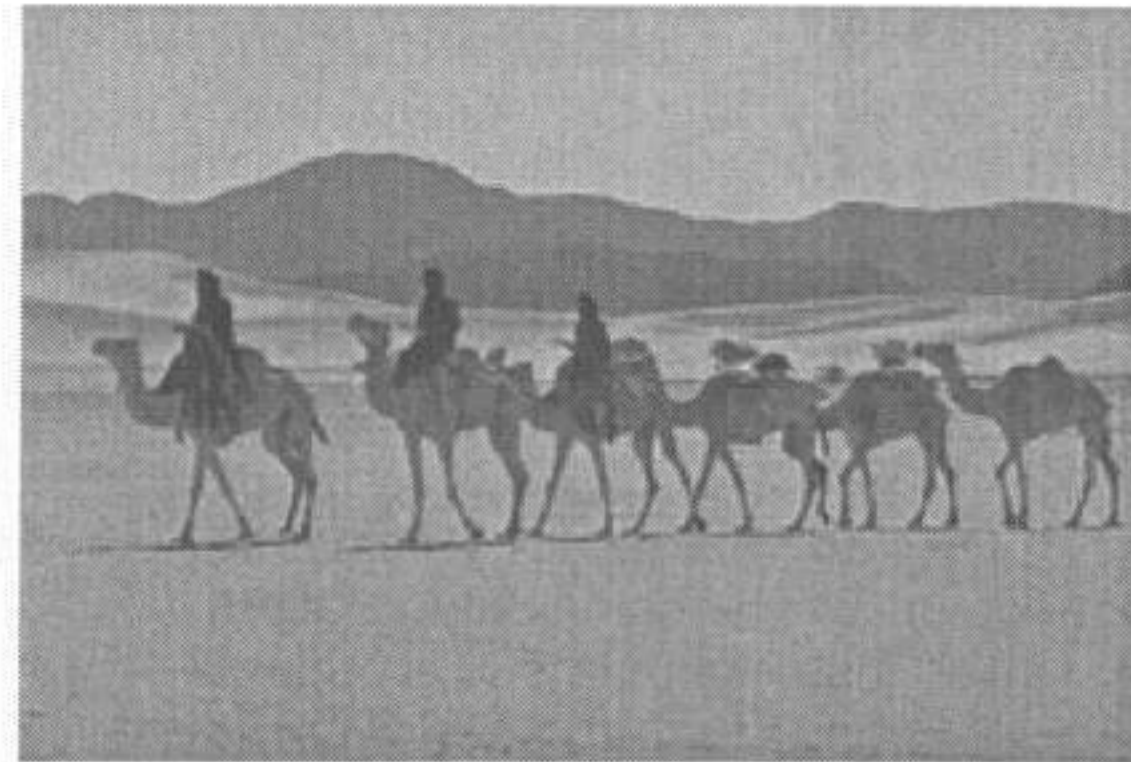
Nonfiction Features of 2004

Asshak, Tales from the Sahara

Asshāk, Geschicthe aus der Sahara
[ASSAK]

Switzerland, 2003, 110 min , Color , 35mm
In Tuareg with English Subtitles
English-Canadian Premiere

Directed By: Ulrike Koch
PRODS: Alfi Sinniger, Karl Baumgartner, Ernst Szebedits, Gerard Huisman
SCR: Ulrike Koch
CAM: Pio Corradi
ED: Magdolna Rokob
MUS: Harry de Wit



[Film Resources](#) [Official Film Website](#)

Following the success of *The Saltmen of Tibet* (VIFF 98), Ulrike Koch has taken the Tuaregs of central Niger as her latest subject. Her eagerly awaited second documentary explores the lives of the desert nomads with a similar natural intimacy and breathtaking imagery. In a world that fluctuates between the extremes of burning heat and chilling cold, the magnificence of the starry sky and the scant light of a campfire, the Tuareg have made their home in the vastness of the Sahara. This nomadic tribe's love for music, beauty, music and poetry still lives on today. Interweaving fact and legend through stunning images, Koch follows the tribesman Nuhi as he searches for his lost camel across different deserted landscapes, exploring a culture that will remain forever mysterious to the West.

"Ulrike Koch's Tuareg reverie *Asshak, Tales from the Sahara* is an attractive, leisurely look at the lives of the nomadic tribesmen of central Niger. Employing an objective camera without narration, Koch's interest lies in the beauty of the image and the interweaving of legends with everyday life... The guiding principle in this society of wanderers is "Asshak," which translates to a deep respect for the rules of conduct and good behaviour... The film's gorgeous cinematography, courtesy of Pio Corradi... and glorious close-ups reveal the pride and nobility in Tuareg faces. Especially memorable are images of camel tracks seen from above, crisscrossing the desert sands with calligraphic beauty."--Jay Weissberg, *Variety*

Screening Schedule

Date	Time	Venue	Tickets
Sat, Oct 2	4:00 pm	Ridge Theatre	\$7.00 <input type="button" value="Past"/>
Mon, Oct 4	7:00 pm	Ridge Theatre	\$9.00 <input type="button" value="Door Only"/>

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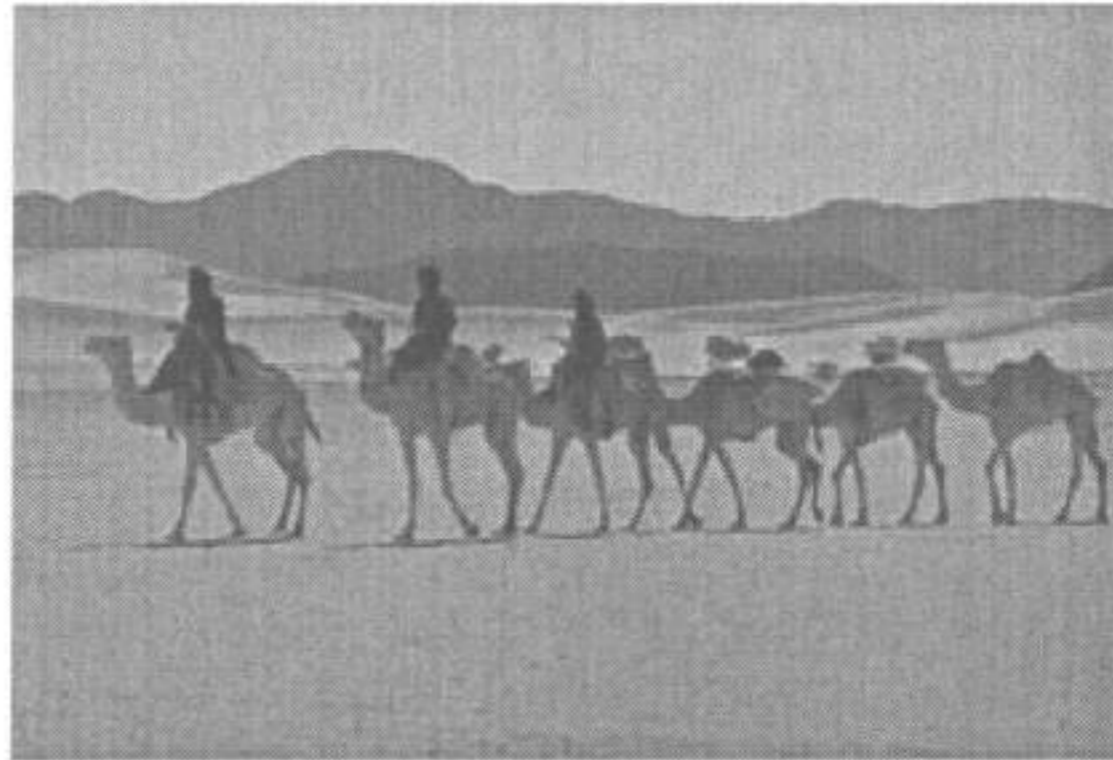
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**Resources for
Asshak, Tales from the Sahara**

Ässhäk, Geschicthe aus der Sahara
[ASSAK] *Nonfiction Features of 2004*

Print Source

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